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Total 24 pages

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## Haliburton businesses 'at the breaking point'

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has condemned the latest raft of COVID-19 measures implemented by the provincial government, saying further business supports will be required to help entrepreneurs through this prolonged third lockdown.

On Friday [April 16], Premier Doug Ford announced an extension of Ontario's state of emergency and provincewide stay-at-home order until at least May 20, while introducing a string of other measures, including the closure of recreational amenities such as golf courses and tennis courts, increasing police powers to allow officers to question anybody who is outside of their home and limiting capacity at essential businesses such as grocery stores to 25 per cent.

Speaking to the *Echo* on Monday, Andrea Strano, president of the local chamber, said many Haliburton County-based businesses were at their breaking point even before Ford announced the current lockdown, and subsequent closure of all non-essential businesses, would be extended.

"Business owners are already financially strained to the max, and anxieties and tensions are at the breaking point," Strano said. "I don't think there's a

see 'WE ALL' page 2



### Taking path to fitness

A participant walks across the walking bridge in Head Lake Park during the "walkilates" class led by Julie Barban of Heritage Ballet in Haliburton. Barban has been leading her clients in outdoor spaces when available and through the online app Zoom. The group exercised for close to an hour and included a series of three brisk periods of walking, interrupted by standing Pilates exercises and finished with a couple more exercises and stretches to round out the class. /DARREN LUM Staff

## Getting the virtual wheels rolling to create a fitter you

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

There's no denying the strangeness of the year with the pandemic's lockdowns and restrictions on public gatherings around the world.

The Highlands wasn't immune to this

reality and up until several weeks ago the winter weather was an additional challenge for locals who don't Nordic ski or can't get out during the daylight hours.

Some found online communities facilitated by the likes of Peloton and Zwift handy, taking advantage of virtual fitness opportunities that can bring real results. Both companies are well-known and heavily marketed to their targeted poten-

tial customers.

Peloton, who sells specific hardware from stationary bikes to treadmills to complement the online on-demand sessions is aimed towards the fitness studio crowd, while Zwift is aimed at the cyclist interested in racking up the miles and cranking out the watts – though the

see PELOTON page 14



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# Local COVID-19 cases on the rise, MoH calls for residents to remain vigilant

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit [HKPRDHU] is “sounding the alarm” with the recent spike in local COVID-19 cases stretching the capacity of the health unit to its limits.

In the past 14 days, HKPR district health unit has been notified of 282 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and more than 500 high-risk contacts spread across Haliburton County, Kawartha Lakes and Northumberland County.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, the region’s medical officer of health, indicated her team has been feeling especially strained in recent weeks. As well as handling the increase in cases, the unit is operating five mass immunization clinics, investigating eight community outbreaks, responding to between 200 and 300 phone calls and emails per day, working with health care partners to set up programs to immunize homebound residents, and working with primary health care providers to implement vaccination of patients.

“We are doing a bit of a dance right now as we continue to work through new cases while also rolling out our vaccination clinics as we know that, in the long run,

the vaccinations will play a major role in changing the trajectory of the pandemic,” Bocking said.

HKPR district health unit last week introduced some “process changes” to balance the work involved with tackling the higher than usual number of new cases while continuing to offer mass immunization clinics in the communities.

The most significant change is the way that high-risk contacts will be handled moving forward. As of Monday [April 19], anyone who is identified as a high-risk contact of a confirmed case will be emailed a letter outlining quarantine and testing requirements. Health unit staff will continue to work closely with individuals who are confirmed cases.

Also, in order to address the hundreds of phone calls and emails coming into the health unit each day, staff will only be responding to urgent or emergency messages moving forward. Individuals who call or email to check on when they may be eligible to be vaccinated will not receive a response.

To compound matters, Bocking says the health unit is experiencing challenges due to decreases in local vaccine delivery. Expected shipments of the Moderna vaccine have been delayed until the end of the month, while the number of Pfizer doses has also dropped – down to around 3,500 doses per week as opposed to the 5,800

doses it was receiving weekly earlier in April.

The vaccine shortage comes at a time when the Ontario government has loosened eligibility requirements for residents to book their shot. Those 60 years of age and older are eligible to book their COVID-19 vaccination at community clinics via the provincial portal as of April 12.

“Our goal is to vaccinate as many people as possible, but with expanded eligibility provincially and no additional vaccine to provide locally, we are challenged to offer more clinics for our residents,” Dr. Bocking said.

Despite this shortage, the health unit is still committed to fulfilling all appointments that have been scheduled through the online portal to date.

With the number of COVID-19 cases reaching new daily highs here in Ontario, Bocking is pleading with local residents to follow the provincial stay-at-home order and public health recommendations to help stop the spread of the virus. She says this should mean staying home unless you need to go out for an essential reason – those being to go to work, to get groceries, or attend a medical appointment.

“In more than half of our latest cases, there is no one point of exposure so that tells us we are clearly seeing the virus circulating in our communities,” Bocking said. “We need to stay vigilant, follow the directions and do our part to stop any further spread.”

## 'We all thought by now that we would be on the recovery side of things'

from page 1

sector that isn’t feeling the effects of this lockdown in some way, shape or form.”

She singled out the tourism and restaurant industries as two areas that would be hit hardest by the extension of lockdown measures into late spring.

“We are entering what is supposed to be our busy season. Everyone is exhausted – we all thought by now that we would be on the recovery side of things, and we clearly aren’t and it hurts,” Strano added.

The chamber represents more than 250 businesses across Haliburton County. Since the onset of the pandemic 13 months ago, Strano has made it her mission to ensure all members are notified about any changes to provincial regulations and are properly supported as they navigate through the various programs available to them.

Securing government funding has been a challenge for many local business owners, Strano admitted.

There was some concern within the offices of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association [HCHBA] on Friday after Ford said he would be putting a stop to all

non-essential construction projects across Ontario. Aggie Tose, the organization’s executive director, was quick to allay any fears, however, once she received official word about what would, and wouldn’t be allowed moving forward.

“The restrictions do not change a whole lot for construction in Haliburton County. Residential construction is considered an essential service, therefore, with curbside service at our lumber yards, other suppliers and Home Hardware stores we can continue working on the homes in Haliburton County,” Tose said. “The Ontario regulations are not as clear as we would like concerning the building permit process. There does not seem to be clear direction on what is accepted before or after April 17. I am still waiting on clarification for that.”

Tose said examples of non-essential construction sites may include shopping malls, hotels and office towers.

Construction is one of the main economic drivers in Haliburton County, Tose said, with the industry employing more than 1,200 people across 56 HCHBA member companies. With that in mind, she was pleased to learn that local businesses will be allowed to honour contracts they have committed to and move ahead with renovation and construction projects.

On Monday the province reported another 4,447 new

cases of COVID-19 and 19 deaths. Here in Haliburton County, there were three new cases reported bringing the total number of active cases up to 12.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, medical officer of health with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit [HKPRDHU] said Friday’s announcement of prolonged and enhanced lockdown measures were “extremely difficult, but absolutely necessary.”

She said that, due to the surging number of COVID-19 case counts in the province, many hospitals, ICU units, health care providers and public health agencies are facing overwhelming pressures in keeping up with the demand for service.

“All aspects of our health care system are stretched to the limit, so decisive action is needed to try and reduce the number of COVID-19 cases,” Bocking said. “These new measures are extremely difficult to enact, but absolutely necessary at this point in the pandemic. I implore everyone to follow these new measures and do all they can to stop the spread. Our region has not been immune to seeing a significant rise in COVID-19 case numbers in the last week. We’re at a really critical tipping point, and unless we follow the new restrictions, we risk losing complete control of the situation.”

## Ferguson pretrial begins May 11

A preliminary hearing for Robert Ferguson held in a virtual court session on April 6 was adjourned to May 11 in the Superior Court for pretrial.

Ferguson, a Highlands East resident, was 58-years-old at the time he was arrested and charged with second-degree murder after the death of 29-year-old Dylan Dahlke, a Dysart et al resident, in the early morning hours of July 6, 2019.

A publication ban is in place at this time. For more information, visit [www.ontariocourtdates.ca](http://www.ontariocourtdates.ca).

Staff

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### Daytime burn ban

Dysart fire chief Mike Iles puts the finishing touches to the new simplified burning restrictions sign, which was erected on April 16 in front of the Haliburton Echo office in Haliburton. Currently, there is no burning allowed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Dysart. / DARREN LUM Staff



# Hike Haliburton 'Light' to proceed in September

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton plans to host a scaled-down version of the Hike Haliburton Festival this fall.

County councillors discussed options for a festival this year during an April 14 meeting. Last year, the popular event, which includes a series of guided hikes throughout the county each September, was cancelled by council amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

During last week's meeting, tourism director Amanda Virtanen presented council with three options regarding a festival this fall.

One was to host the full-scale festival, complete with marketing and a printed program. Virtanen said it would entail extra costs because of sanitization requirements, the need for personal protective equipment, etc. With dozens of people per hike, Virtanen also said there could be logistical issues with maintaining physical distancing.

"If social distancing is still in place in September, we would have hikers spread up to 200 feet," she said.

While hosting the festival typically involves seeking sponsorships from businesses, with the pandemic wallowing the tourism industry, Virtanen said no sponsorships would be sought, but added some local businesses have still volunteered to provide sponsorships.

The cancellation of last year's festival meant that



Haliburton County council has decided there will be a Hike Haliburton in 2021, hosting the event in a "Light" format. / CHAD INGRAM Staff

\$37,500 that had been budgeted for in the county's expenses was moved into a reserve.

The second option was a scaled-down version of the festival, which Virtanen said she was calling Hike Hali-

burton "Light," which would include fewer hikes with fewer spaces on each hike, and less advertising and promotional material.

"The options would allow us to control regulations," she said, adding a smaller event would also be easier to cancel, should the dynamics of the pandemic mean the event would need to be halted.

The third option was the outright cancellation of the festival.

"I must say the first time I read this, I thought, let's cancel it," said Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy. However, Kennedy said he feared cancelling the event two years in a row would interrupt its momentum, adding he ultimately supported the idea of a smaller festival, which he noted would be easier to cancel if required.

"It's more nimble," he said.

The bulk of councillors agreed.

"I'd hate to see just cancelling it," said Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell, noting the festival was five months away and that with COVID-19 vaccinations underway across the province, hopefully it would be able to proceed.

"The ability to cancel has got to be understood," said Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and County Warden Liz Danielsen.

The festival is scheduled to take place Sept. 16 through 19.

## Students quarantining after coming into contact with positive COVID-19 case

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

An entire bus load of students and at least one classroom from Haliburton County are quarantining after being identified as close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case over the weekend.

In a letter distributed to parents on Sunday [April 18], the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit [HKPRDHU] confirmed that children who travelled on Bus #57 on April 8 could have been exposed to COVID-19 and as such would have to quarantine in their homes until April 22.

"This letter serves as official notice of mandatory quarantine and testing recommendations. You will be contacted by the public health unit only if you receive a positive COVID-19 test, if you call to report symptoms, or if quarantine dates change based on our investigation," the letter reads. "Quarantine is a legal requirement to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

Any teachers or staff who may have been working on Bus #57 on April 8 for longer than 15 minutes will also have to quarantine.

Providing that students show no symptoms, other members of the household are permitted to leave their home for essential reasons. Essential reasons include attending work, school and childcare, or running errands such as to pick up groceries, attend medical appointments or picking up a prescription. If the individual displays symptoms, all household members must quaran-

tine until a negative test result is received.

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School [HHSS] principal Chris Boulay sent an email all HHSS families on Sunday evening stating he had been informed by the health unit that a person from HHSS had tested positive for COVID-19. There was no mention of Bus #57, nor whether the infected individual was a staff member or a student, in his note.

"We know this information may be upsetting. We are working closely with Trillium Lakelands District School Board and HKPRDHU. Together, we are taking necessary steps to prevent the further spread of COVID-19 within our school community," Boulay said.

Virtual classes began for all TLDSB students on Monday [April 19]. The Ontario government has not yet indicated when they will reopen schools for in-person learning. Education Minister Stephen Lecce announced last week that all schools would remain closed indefinitely following the April Break in the wake of the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There was some concern amongst parents and members of the community that it took the health unit 10 days to notify the school board and parents about this positive

case and subsequent risk. Laurie Oetelaar, who claims to be the bus driver for Bus #57, was particularly unhappy about the situation.

"I find it absolutely despicable that I wasn't notified and put my husband's, and other seniors I drive, lives at risk," Oetelaar stated in a post on the *Haliburton Echo* Facebook page. "Maybe a call from the school board or health unit might [have helped] clear things up."

In a separate release to media on Friday [April 16] the local health unit said it was adjusting the way it notifies people that they may be a high-risk contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19, now emailing letters to individuals outlining quarantine and testing requirements. This change comes as Dr. Natalie Bocking, medical officer of health for HKPRDHU, raised concerns over the unit's "stretched capacity" following a recent increase in positive COVID-19 cases in the area.

If you have concerns about your child's symptoms, consult your health care provider or seek immediate medical attention through the HHSS emergency department, or by calling 911. The health unit asks that you contact them at 1-866-888-4577 ext. 1508 to report symptoms in your child or other household members.



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# New respite service 'plugging the gap' in Haliburton County

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

While many families have been struggling since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic more than a year ago, those who relied on community supports and services to care for vulnerable individuals have been particularly impacted and, in some cases, completely left behind.

Tanya Yakeley has spent the past 13 months working hard to plug that gap.

Last March, on the back of an extensive 21-year career working for Community Living to care for individuals with a wide-range of cognitive and developmental disabilities, Yakeley took on the role of coordinator with Respite Now – an organization that matches families in need with “caring and compassionate” local workers.

“Respite care is, essentially, relief for a caregiver, but it really has come to mean so many other things here in our area, especially with COVID-19 [happening],” Yakeley said in explaining the services her organization provides. “With the [provincial government] shutting down a lot of community resources, respite workers have kind of become the ‘everything’ to the people, and the families that need a certain level of support.”

If that sounds like an exaggeration, it isn't, Yakeley stated. As well as providing in-home care – helping individuals with simple tasks such as laundry and cooking meals – Yakeley says many of the workers have taken it upon themselves to provide supports in other areas too.

“We have quite a few workers that are starting to do some support around vir-



tual learning... We have individuals that are needing suicide watch types of support, and lots of other mental health supports,” Yakeley said. “Along with that, we’ve been picking up all of the community supports too – taking people out for a hike, or teaching them how the bus system works in their community, or helping with grocery shopping. Basically, a lot of the things that other agencies would help with, the respite workers are kind of filling in the gaps.”

She added, “We’ve actually been really fortunate that there are workers out there that are able to meet these needs, because there’s a lot of families right now who are in crisis.”

While Respite Now officially launched in 2019, Yakeley said things didn't really

start kicking into gear until spring 2020. Since that time, she has taken on more than 250 families from Haliburton County, Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Northumberland County. There has been substantial growth on the worker side too, with 75 active workers across the region and another 120 awaiting accreditation.

The organization is in the midst of yet another hiring campaign, as they try to bring more individuals on board to meet the demands of the community.

The community reach is spreading too, Yakeley said, with the initiative quickly outgrowing the Haliburton, Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes areas.

“Our service radius is growing quite dramatically,” Yakeley noted. “We pro-

vide services as far away as Belleville now, and then in the opposite direction we have clients in Durham north and Mississauga. We’re growing in terms of communities, but we’re also growing in terms of service. We have the capacity now to support anyone and everyone of all ages. Seniors services are taking notice of us, and we’re helping to provide supports for families in their home so that seniors can stay living in their home. We’ve really evolved from just being a support for people with developmental disabilities to encompassing all ages and abilities.”

The Respite Now app, available on all Apple and Android devices, is free. All of the services and supports Yakeley herself provides are also free. The only cost to families is whatever agreement they strike up with the workers they are matched up with. Operating as independent contractors, workers will negotiate with families on a cost for service.

That flexibility has been a major plus point for many clients thus far, Yakeley said. Because of the number of workers available locally, families have been able to mix and match to find the best fit for the service they need.

“Families, for years, have been seeking a service like this. Traditionally, for these types of supports, they’re having to do endless amounts of paperwork to get onto a three to five year waitlist,” Yakeley said. “That’s one of the first things families will ask me – what is the waitlist time, and how much will this cost? In most situations I can usually find families a match for the supports they need within 24 hours, and the cost is discussed rather than being dictated.”

For more information, visit [www.respite-now.com](http://www.respite-now.com).

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# TLDSB bags \$7.5 million in new COVID-19 relief money

MIKE BAKER

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Trillium Lakelands District School Board is receiving around \$7.5 million in additional COVID-19 relief funding from the provincial and federal governments.

In a release to media last week, Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, said the money is being allocated to upgrade infrastructure at local schools to protect against COVID-19.

"The health and wellbeing of students remains the highest priority for our government," Scott said. "Building on previous investments, this funding will help support important upgrades for local schools."

The federal government is investing up to \$525.2 million this year to go towards a variety of infrastructure projects at elementary schools and high schools all across the country through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program [ICIP], with the province contributing approximately \$131.3 million to the initiative.

The money can be used by TLDSB to support building retrofits, updates and upgrades to existing facilities and co-located child care centres. Projects can include HVAC renovations to improve air quality, installing water bottle refilling stations to improve access to safe drinking water, and space reconfigurations such as new wells and doors to enhance physical distancing.

Jamie Schmale, MP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock was pleased to see funds allocated to rural com-

munities such as Haliburton County.

"As we continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, this additional federal and provincial funding will help keep our local schools as safe as possible for both students and staff," Schmale said. "This investment will benefit students now and in the future by supporting a healthier school environment."

Ontario schools have been provided with more than \$1.6 billion to better protect students, staff and families since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic last March, with additional supports offered for enhancing online learning, promoting student mental health, hiring additional staff and making improvements to air quality and ventilation at schools.



## A drive-by celebration

Residents of the Silver Beach community off of Wigamog Road were joined by representatives from the Haliburton & District Lions Club on Friday, April 16 in a drive-by 85th birthday celebration for Helen Mykytjuk. Participants dropped off flowers, cars and homemade signs to celebrate the occasion. /MIKE BAKER Staff



Above, Silver Beach resident Craig Thompson joined in on the fun last Friday, wearing a birthday hat and playing 'Happy Birthday To You' on his trumpet to neighbour Helen Mykytjuk.

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# points of view



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Published by White Pine Media Corp



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

## We deserve better

I have officially lost all confidence in Ontario premier Doug Ford.

I know, I'm pretty late to the table.

Many have taken aim at Ford over the past three years for his various personal indiscretions and political gaffes. I could spend the next two or three weeks writing about those for this space and still only barely scratch the surface. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit last March, however, I was mildly surprised, and maybe even a little impressed by the way Ford pivoted and handled what was, and remains today, an unprecedented situation.

He was, or at least appeared to be, a pillar of strength at a time when millions of Ontarians were panicking and crying out for someone to take charge and instill a sense of calmness and direction during the earliest days of the pandemic. I was blown away when he announced the first provincial lockdown, and for all the right reasons.

I was a little less blown away once I started to look into it and realized that 75 per cent of the province would still be able to go to work and eventually having to wear a mask while out in public, things wouldn't change all that much for the vast majority.

Since then we have stumbled from states of emergency, to further lockdowns, to stay-at-home orders, and premature re-openings before Ford pulled the "emergency brake" while declaring Ontario was at its worst and lowest point of the pandemic.

There's a reason why things are as bad as they are right now. While the public has to shoulder some of the blame for allowing the third wave to wash over Ontario like a tsunami these past couple of weeks, the inconsistent messaging and constantly changing rules and restrictions from the province plays just as big, if not a

bigger part.

Take this past Friday's announcement for example. Ford announced all playgrounds would be closed province-wide immediately. People were upset by this, and started complaining online. A mere 24-hours later, Ford reversed the decision and said playgrounds would remain open. Regardless of what my thoughts are on the decision the fact he backed down so quickly, despite previously saying public health officials were behind the move, shows an incredible lack of leadership.

Then he announced that his government was going to empower police officers to arbitrarily stop any individual who may be outside

of their residence for the duration of province's current lockdown. Notwithstanding everything that's going on in the world today surrounding the Black Lives Matter movement and the horrifically bad optics of giving law enforcement such extraordinary power, the move itself infringes upon our civil rights. That he seemingly didn't know this is astounding. Fortunately, many police forces,

including in Peterborough, Ottawa and Toronto, indicated they had no intention of carrying out these random checks.

I'm sick and tired too of hearing Ford blame the federal government. Are they culpable? Sure. Justin Trudeau should have worked harder to secure more doses of the vaccine, and he undoubtedly should have closed the borders to international travellers sooner than he did.

But equally so, Ford and his government need to be stronger, and more consistent with their messaging and with the restrictions they put into place. We are in a worse position today than we were when this whole mess started. And the blame for that lies directly at Ford's doorstep.



mike  
baker

## Editorial



An imperfect crocus ... for an imperfect spring.

by Darren Lum

## A tale told

EVERY TIME Jim drove by, he wondered what the story was. It sat a little back from the road, an older bungalow with its siding discoloured and peeling, a few loose shingles and a yard so covered with downed branches and a forest of weeds that the driveway had become invisible. Jim had never seen any sign of people on the property and yet he could also see that once someone had been there. Someone had built window boxes, planted shrubs and put up a swing on the maple tree's sturdy branch. But now the house just sat there, looking unwanted and forgotten.

Old buildings reminded him of his childhood. Growing up in the country meant every house on their road was unique, often built by the person living there. There was also the occasional abandoned place, their curtain-less windows staring back at the world.

It was a very different landscape when Jim travelled south to visit his grandson's family. There he saw street after street of large houses on tiny squares of land, with the same houses appearing repeatedly throughout the neighbourhood. While not to Jim's taste, his grandson felt safe and fortunate to have his own home. Jim wondered if the old bungalow had ever made someone else feel safe and fortunate.

About a half mile down the sideroad of Jim's youth there had been an ancient farm. Jim's uncle rented the fields, planting hay and alfalfa. No one lived there now. The original log house appeared to be sinking slightly on one end and the barn had lost many boards. As a boy, Jim had been fascinated by the place, sometimes cutting across the front yard to peer through the windows. He never saw much. The interior was dim with lumpy furniture still inside, as though waiting for someone to return.

Jim realized his uncle must have known something about the place since he had to pay for using the fields. So one Sunday afternoon once his chores were done, Jim hopped on his bike

and peddled down the road to his relatives' place. After lemonade and oatmeal cookies, courtesy of his aunt, he broached the subject of the old farm with his uncle.

"There's a strange story there," came the response. Jim's ears perked up. "I don't want your mum getting upset that I've told you this Jim," said his uncle, "so let's keep it between the two of us."

Once he had gained Jim's assurance of silence, his uncle recounted what had happened. Many years before there had been a terrible incident in the farmhouse. A hired man had been 'bothering' the farmer's wife and when the farmer found out he had shot the man, his wife and then himself in the kitchen. It took a day before the discovery was made. A neighbour had wondered why the house stayed dark all night and the cattle spent the night in the field. When he went to investigate he had stumbled on the tragic scene.

Since that time, people up and down the sideroad had claimed to hear gunshots and see flickering lights in the downstairs windows. It didn't happen often, maybe once or twice a year according to Jim's uncle. There had also been tales of a bagpipe's mournful cry coming from the top of the

hill behind the house. "The farmer had played the bagpipes," explained the uncle. "and that's why it's called Piper's Hill to this day," he said. "Now remember Jim, not a word."

As Jim lay in bed that night he wondered if maybe his uncle had been pulling his leg with the story about the old farmhouse. There had been a mischievous twinkle in the man's eye as he had spoken and Jim's aunt had rolled her eyes during the telling.

Now, as sleep crept closer and closer, Jim could feel himself starting to nod off. But suddenly, he heard something that pushed open his eyes and peaked his curiosity. Getting up out of bed, Jim went over to his window and threw it up, straining to listen. Then he heard it. The sound of bagpipes.

## Down



sharon  
lynch

## Our road

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# points of view

## Gross then and now

**I**F YOU EVER wondered at what point modern English gets relegated to old English allow me to present the following case study.

The other day I was reading a news story that suggested that there are 144 various invasive species that are poised to invade the Great Lakes but have not yet done so.

I then told Jenn about the story and said, "That's a gross number of invasive species, huh?"

Those of you who grew up in my era are probably smirking at my quick wit – and, if not for your sciatica, would probably even be rolling on the floor laughing. That's because you were brought up with the understanding that gross is not just a word that describes something unsightly, disgusting, very obvious and blatant. It also describes 12 dozen, which is – wait for it – 144.

Jenn did no such smirking, however.

In fact, my Jenn, who has a greater grasp of English than most, had never even heard the word gross used in that numerical way. Worse still, a quick canvassing of my younger friends, and even respectable people my own age, revealed similar results.

This tells me two things. First, my window for a stand-up comedy career ended in the early 1800s. Second, the things you do in childhood have reverberating effects through the ages.

You see, it is clear to me now that I, and perhaps several of my childhood friends, unwittingly altered the course of the English language, at least when it comes



steve  
galea

## Loon Tales

to the word gross.

That's because when we were kids the word gross was understood to work as a descriptive word and as another way of saying 144, which I can only assume came in handy at one time or another.

In hindsight, however, I now believe that we gave our parents and teachers so much cause to use the word gross in the unsightly, disgusting, very obvious and blatant definition, that it seems that people forgot about its numerical meaning.

That is to say we tipped the scale on the word gross. And for this I am sorry.

I suspect this occurred primarily because of our disdain for bathing, but that's not to suggest that the worm-in-apple incident or the road-killed pet mole didn't have subtle influences either. For, if the reactions from our mothers and aunt regarding the latter two are any indication, they surely did.

In fact, they might have had more influence than our disdain for bathing since, in that case, our parents could have at least used the numerical meaning of gross to describe the number of days between baths.

Whether or not you buy into my theory, the sad truth is the use of the word gross to convey the number 144 is, as we speak, being tossed into the dustbin of English words no longer used. There it will slowly perish, like the word dustbin, until desperate columnists find a use for them.

Jenn who still has the cold, black heart of an editor doesn't mind this a bit. She says that there are already too many confusing words in the English language.

But as someone who is proud to know gross in all its glory, I can't help but feel a little sad that its full meaning is fading fast.

Jenn argues English language is always changing. I wish I could nay.



The senior games awards were presented to the winners of the nine games at the West Guilford Recreation Centre at a hamburger and hot dog lunch on Friday. More than 150 participants were there to applaud the winners. The bronze, silver and gold awards for horseshoes, bridge and lawn

bowling went to, front row, left, Faye Silver, Evelyn Henderson, Simone Palmer, Gloria Lemieux, Millie Boskett and Lloyd Boskett; second row, Cecile McLeod, Virna Wagg, Lenore Gillespie, Bruce Armstrong, Hadden Gillespie and Alf Palmer; back row, Harry Henderson and Jack Burtch.

## pic of the past

**B**ack in 1986 this group of seniors were winners of the gold, silver and bronze awards in horseshoes, bridge and lawn bowling. Front row from left, Faye Silver, Evelyn Henderson, Simone Palmer, Gloria Lemieux, Millie Boskett and Lloyd Boskett; second row, Cecile McLeod, Virna Wagg, Lenore Gillespie, Bruce Armstrong, Hadden Gillespie and Alf Palmer; back row, Harry Henderson and Jack Burtch.

## letters to the editor

## Give kids a platform to be creative

OK – enough negative talk about illegal graffiti at the Haliburton Skate Park. Ever since the park has been built we have heard about graffiti, cameras, privacy, what is happening to our kids, etc.

I have travelled this province and looked for skate parks to use with the skater kids who have worked for me over the years, and in almost all cases the conversation isn't "look how bad our skate park looks," instead what I have seen is that other parks are painted with amazing graffiti art, produced by local artists.

So, instead of cameras and lawsuits and court cases and police intervention, why don't we paint our skate park? We could have a design competition, hire local artists and have the kids help in the painting of it. In most cases, if the art work is

grand enough, other taggers don't want to mess it up. It's part of the code to not paint over someone's graffiti art work, and the kids who help can and will take great pride in it for years to come.

In other skate parks, notable on the west coast, individuals raised money to add a wall that snakes around the park that can be painted with graffiti.

In a town that prides itself on amazing art and amazing artists, can't we figure this out without attacking our kids?

Tom Green  
Minden

## Join us in study of 'Chinese Mystery Snail'

Are you a property owner on Cranberry, Pine, Green Lakes or the adjoining Gull river? If so we would love to have you join us in a study of the "Chinese Mystery Snail" that is invading our waterways. The Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners Association has joined with the Ontario Federation of Hunters and Anglers along with the Federal and Provincial Governments to document and remove this invasive species from our waterways. We know the snails have been found in the last lake of our system as well as above us on Eagle Lake. To remove these invaders from the waterways one needs to be trained and granted a licence to legally remove and dispose of them. Since this is a study some documentation would be required as well. OFHA will be providing training for this program via a Zoom meeting, anticipated early in May. MBC has had a great response from our membership, we are hoping some like minded folks from the lakes above us will join in.

Ideally suited to those who love to fish, swim, canoe, kayak on those calm mornings when the lake bottom is visible. If you would like to join us please contact presidentmbclakes@gmail.com

An opportunity to help keep our lakes and rivers pristine.

On another note of interest to these property owners is MBC's ongoing discussions with The Coalition For Equitable Water Flow and the management of the Trent Severn Waterway concerning water levels in our chain of lakes. The last meeting with TSW gave us the opportunity to speak directly to the senior management of TSW to express our concern about our disappearing lakes and rivers. Last year was particularly bad. We can only hope that they were listening to our concerns, time will tell.

Murray Adam  
President MBC POA





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# Condo development proposal for affordable rentals

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

A delegation at last week's Highlands East council meeting on Tuesday, April 13 is bringing hope for affordable housing with a 40-unit condominium project for independent living seniors in Cardiff.

Led by Stephen Tunks, the chairman of Teska Development Corporation, the request was for council to enter into negotiations to purchase the 2778 Monck Road property for his Cardiff condominium project.

The project includes a pair of two storey buildings, each with 20 units, including 12 one-bedroom and eight two-bedroom units. There will be two elevators and a stairwell and parking will be at the front and the back of the building. The building will be a slab on grade (no basement) and made from wood with a steel roof, which costs more initially, but is more cost effective because of its 50-year warranty, suitability for the solar panel installation and its environmental impact is less than an asphalt roof. The plan includes keeping the post office, the library and the food bank where they are. He also offered a \$1 annual fee for the food bank with a 20-year term. The former Highlands East Township office building is expected to be repurposed in a community centre for the residents.

Tunks said the idea for this development is not to just add housing, but to also create an investment property for purchasers.

"The whole concept behind this project was to create an investment property for some people who would create a rental income property. In order to be able to produce apartments that were designed, but not exclusively to seniors who would like to maintain independent living status. In other words the project doesn't have a dining room, or any medical assistance. They're literally just small apartments," he said.

He adds doorways throughout will accommodate wheelchairs and the units will have walk-in showers, and the elevators will be large enough for gurneys while each suite will be on one floor. Solar panels on the roof will eliminate hydro costs except for meter charges.

The chairman said he acknowledges the water and sewage capabilities may be a constraint for the development, but that he was willing to pay the costs to enhance the service, which would be part of the negotiations for purchasing the land.

Deputy Mayor Cecil Ryall welcomed this proposal and thanked Tunks for looking to invest in the area.

"It's very, very refreshing to look at the way that you're looking at it and to look at the target market you're looking at," he said.

Project cost will be low through having a simple design, a stick frame building and a steel roof with vinyl siding. The rent fees will be approximately \$900 for a one-bedroom and \$1,100 for a two-bedroom and will cover condo fees and taxes.

"The recognition is this is Cardiff, it's not Toronto, and the rents here are going to have to be at market value otherwise it's just not going to work," Tunks said.

He said if it weren't for COVID-19 related restrictions he would have held a "coffee and doughnuts," event for the public already. The timeline for the construction from start to finish would take eight and a half months, he said. Without COVID restrictions, the project could be delivered by spring 2022.

Coun. Cam McKenzie said an issue he's heard from constituents already is about the lease agreement and whether it will permit subletting, and rentals for summer accommodation and Airbnb.

Tunks recommends the township take steps to prevent this.

"I would say to you as a township, if you want to ensure that this problem does not put its head up later on that you stipulate within the building permit that such an operation is prohibited," he said.

Mayor Dave Burton said this is exciting news, but there is a lot of work to do before selling the property, such as a study about the capacity for water and sewage to handle 40 more homes.

"I do feel we're ... I wouldn't say rushing things, but we're premature with some of the things ... we still have a lot of work on this end, Steve. I'm not trying to pour any cold water on the project. Don't get me wrong, but I think we have steps we have to go through. I certainly appreciate ... I certainly can't see putting this together to meet your timelines."

Tunks recognizes the effort still required and is open to being patient.

"We've all come to the conclusion COVID-19 has thrown as many wrenches at you as you can think [of] and it will take whatever time it takes, including whatever time the municipality needs to accomplish the application and things like that," Tunks said. "The specific ask is we enter into some negotiations with regards to buying the property. That's the fundamental portion of the whole project."

CAO Shannon Hunter said among the first steps related to the property negotiations is for council to deem this property as surplus and get a "fair market value" appraisal, as part of the municipality's disposition bylaw.

COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	12	1	91	78	3	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	46	2	672	583	34	43	13
Northumberland	93	0	748	643	20	12	0
Total	151	3	1,511	1,304	57	56	13

## Local COVID-19 cases continue to rise

On Monday, April 19, three new cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton County were reported by the local health unit, bringing the local unresolved cases to 12, with one current probable case. Two outbreaks reported on April 16 at churches in Highlands East - six cases associated with St. John Vianney Catholic Church and three cases associated with Our Lady of Lourdes - have been declared over./Screenshot from HKPRDHU website



“Growing up, when it was time for the first swim of the season, my sisters and I would race across the dock to be first in the lake. And right behind us was Taffy, always thinking we needed rescuing.”

- Pat Williams, Eagle Lake



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# Volunteer Week



Volunteers with the Rotary Club of Haliburton work to pack Good Food Boxes with apples, romaine lettuce, cucumbers, spinach, baby carrots, potatoes and broccoli. The program received \$5,500 through the New Horizons for Seniors Program, which allowed Rotary to distribute 100 bags of fresh produce for free to those living in seniors apartments around Haliburton County. /File photo



## Haliburton County Heat Bank

People helping people is part of the Haliburton County way of life. It is in our nature to offer a hand to a neighbour when they need it, especially when times are difficult. We are stronger when we come together, each of us offering what we can, when we can to be a social safety net for each other. In our agency, that means helping to make sure that no one goes hungry or cold.

Central Food Network is almost entirely volunteer-run, counting on approximately 60 dedicated people who help with our food and heat services. These kind folks really went above and beyond in 2020, responding to an increase in need for our usual services and also

helping to create new services to meet changing needs.

Volunteers were responsible for feeding over 170 people on average every month through our two food banks, preparing 7,236 frozen meals, completing 181 deliveries of groceries and food hampers, assisting 25 households with income tax filing and distributing 57 truckloads of firewood!

We also have many volunteers who are behind the scenes who helped organize fundraisers, split wood and lent a hand with communications. In fact, recognizing that during the pandemic more people may be turning to our website for information on our services, one of our volunteers completely redesigned our agency website!

## Minden Community Food Centre

The Minden Community Food Centre, formerly the Minden Food Bank, was established in 1993. Since then we have served our community by providing food, cooking classes, clothing, toys, books, medical equipment, school supplies and other household goods for those who are in need. Our volunteers are at the heart of all that we do.

In the past 12 months, we have operated throughout the provincial lockdowns. No one has been allowed into our facility due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have had a core group of volunteers who have carried the operation for the entire year.

We have created our safe bubble of volunteers, who have felt safe with each other and carried out this vital service to our community. Some of the volunteers

who have dedicated their time include Bruce Fisher, Bruno Campagnola, Christine Cote, Gary Stoner, Diane Cullin, Ray Kidon, Don Veno, Michelle Reay, Marilynne Lesperance, Kim Russell, Joanne Barnes, William Wood, Wendy Harding and Cliff Harding.

Thanks to these great volunteers for their tireless and selfless work over the past year.

We caught up with some of these volunteers last week, and asked them what volunteerism meant to them and why they do it.

"I like the friendship with the other volunteers. We have become like a family," one respondent said.

"The love of helping people," another stated. "We get back from clients as much as we give to them."

At the centre of each response was a desire to give back to the community they call home.



Rotarians worked to cook and assemble beef on a bun last August in the parking lot outside Rotary Park in Haliburton off Park Street. Although the annual carnival could not go ahead due to the coronavirus pandemic, the service club members decided to offer their popular sandwiches as a fundraiser for community initiatives in a drive thru format in order to ensure COVID-19 protocols were adhered to. /File photo

A huge **THANK YOU**  
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# Volunteer Week



## Minden Rotary

The Minden Rotary Club has continued to stay busy during the COVID-19 pandemic, and of late, has been distributing vaccination consent forms throughout the community, as well as assisting with the vaccination clinic at the Minden arena. Sally Moore and Pat Bradley have led that effort.

The pandemic has caused the club to pivot in the way that it raises funds.

"While the pandemic forced us to cancel our traditional fundraisers, the annual dinner auction, our road toll (previously the bridge loll) and our Canada Day peameal bacon sandwich food boot, it concurrently increased the need for support in the community," says president Dave Bonham. "We met the challenge electronically with a wine fest, an online auction, and a considerably increased usage of our charitable status through online donations. The community, again as only Minden could, responded with more than \$9,000 in donations."

This allowed the club to meet commitments such as its annual involvement in the Christmas hamper program through the Minden Community Food Centre, as well as purchasing iPads for Hyland Crest residents, allowing them to keep in touch virtually with family members while in isolation amid the pandemic.

Bonham credits member Sharon Foster for moving the club more into the digital age, bolstering its presence online and on social media.

"I joined Minden Rotary because I wanted to meet like-minded community members who by taking action were making a difference in our community," says Foster, a relatively new club member. "It



Members of the Minden Rotary Club outside the COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. /Photo submitted

is an honour to serve others. It is also a learning experience that will improve my skill sets and enable me to network amongst other business professionals and community leaders."

Longtime member Lynda Litwin says she joined Rotary to give back to the community.

"We moved here in 2000 and were welcomed into the community," Litwin says. "Our children had opportunities opened to them through Rotary in the Rotary Exchange Program and Interact high school club. I wanted to support this

worthy program and do what I can do to make Minden a better place."

For more information about the Minden Rotary Club, visit <http://www.mindenrotary.ca/>

## Places for People

The COVID-19 pandemic has not interrupted fundraising for county-based affordable housing organization Places for People. In fact, a virtual version of the organization Highland Yard fundraiser last year actually raised about twice as

much as usual.

However, the quick increase in property values in the county, which have spiked amid the pandemic as people look to leave urban areas for more sparsely populated ones, is posing a challenge for the organization, as it looks to purchase new properties for new projects.

"The increased price of property, let alone buildings on property," founder Fay Martin says, is causing some difficulty. "In a sense, we're in the same situation as anyone trying to get into the market."

While P4P has traditionally focused on single-family buildings or duplex structures, it is now working on larger, multi-unit projects, something new for most members. Martin notes that one advantage of an influx of people to the county, has been new members with professional backgrounds that make them ideal for assisting with grant-writing and such activities.

Anyone who's interested in joining Places for People is encouraged to get in touch. For more information, visit <https://www.placesforpeople.ca/>



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for PEOPLE**

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- Community Cooks
- Cardiff Food Bank
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# Volunteer Week



## Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation

HHHS Foundation greatly values the commitment and contribution of all of our volunteers, including our volunteer board of directors, who dedicate their time and expertise in governance and support of our fundraising efforts for quality hospital and health care facilities.

While the pandemic hindered our ability to engage in person with our volunteers for many of our usual events this past year, we gratefully acknowledge their ongoing support. And we are also grateful to so many in the community who volunteered time and talent in COVID relief efforts, including the making of thousands of masks! We look forward to new opportunities to welcome back our volunteers soon.

## Haliburton Highlands Health Services

Much of what HHHS does with respect to community programs would not be possible without a strong and active volunteer base.

Volunteers make significant contribution at many places in HHHS, with our patients, residents, clients, and community. No matter their role, be it governance, advisory, or direct service, their dedication, commitment, support, and generosity of spirit continue to inspire us every day – and ultimately help us be a better health service provider in our community – it is a full circle.

While we have been unable to connect with many of our volunteers over the past year, many have remained active – and pivotal to our ability to respond to the needs of our community during this time of crisis.

Committees and governance across the organization have necessarily continued across HHHS, albeit in a new virtual format: the HHHS board of directors have continued in their governance role through these very challenging times and must certainly be commended for the support they have provided the organization in this regard; other committees such as the community advisory committee provided valuable insight into our COVID-19 response – even taking time to provide feedback on website development, and communication – which ultimately improved our COVID-19 response.

Several community programs that are largely or entirely dependent on volunteers have remained operational throughout the COVID-19 period, such as volunteer drivers, home help/home maintenance, Meals



Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation's executive director Lisa Tompkins, at front right, reads the winning ticket belonging to Stephen Tining of Toronto, who won the \$20,000 for the annual Cash for Care Cash Lottery while board chairperson, Eric Recalla, director, Cathy Mack, and vice-chairperson, David Zilstra applaud the occasion on Monday, Feb. 15 at the Haliburton hospital in Haliburton. Other winning tickets drawn that day belonged to Jack and Loretta Billings for \$2,000 and Betty Austin for \$1,500. The annual draw, which sold 84 per cent of tickets printed, exceeding last years total, will help to raise funds for a vital signs monitor. /DARREN LUM Staff

on Wheels delivery volunteers, Visiting Hospice, and Friendly Visitors. While in some cases the format of their work may have changed to virtual, many of our volunteers donned PPE, and enhanced infection prevention and control protocols to ensure that clients were able to attend medically necessary appointments and treatments, and receive meals that of obvious necessity to their well-being.

Volunteers rallied to be of service to the Community

Support Response Team, which ensured that groceries, prescriptions, pet food and other necessities were delivered to vulnerable community members who were either at heightened risk or needing to self-isolate.

Many volunteers found other ways to remain active outside of their usual roles including the making and distribution of masks in the early days, to more recently providing support for vaccination clinics.



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*We truly value your continued support of HHHS.*

*HHHS recognizes the unique challenges this past year has brought to our many volunteers.*



**Thank you to all  
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Your ongoing dedication to the children and families we serve is truly appreciated!

For more information about volunteer opportunities, call 1 800 661 2843, ext. 1221.



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# Volunteer Week



## Haliburton & District Lions Club

The motto of all Lions Clubs is 'We Serve'. Service is our commitment and our joy. Volunteering is the essence of service. It means everything.

The amazing thing about being a Haliburton Lion is that there are so many different avenues for service; for volunteering. There are so many opportunities to give back to our community. We love this variety! We feel that everyone needs to find a way to give back to the community; to give back to the people of Haliburton, especially those who need it most.

The greatest gift in giving back to the community is the personal reward and satisfaction each of us feels when we do so. And, don't forget, we love having fun while we do it.

We think of our Club as our Lions family; a genuine and caring family that invites everyone to join.

The volunteer work of the Haliburton and District Lions Club falls into two main categories: service and fundraising to support the service.

When looking back at the past 12 months we find the shroud of COVID-19. And while it certainly affected what we did, we continued to serve our community and discovered new and exciting ways to do so. Accordingly, while we were not able to read stories and distribute new books to children at Cardiff and Wilberforce Elementary Schools, we were able to donate funds to the Haliburton Public Library, Dysart Branch for the purchase of Maker Kits. We were able to donate funds to the municipality for the purchase and planting of trees along the riverbank in Head Lake Park. And, it was such fun to take on a new endeavour: The Enchanted Forest Service Project at Abbey Gardens.

The Enchanted Forest had been the scene of vandalism during the previous winter and we assisted in refurbishing this delightful children's play area. Imagine our happy faces as we delivered our children's play kitchen, puppets for the puppet theatre and so much more. It was especially gratifying to have the community come forward with donations and we were so thankful when by Mark Lowes, owner of Westone / Whitestone Aggregates donated four tons of white crushed stone. In addition, The Enchanted Forest became home to our newly constructed Little Free Library. We will continue to maintain the library and keep it full of children's books. We are also continuing with the refurbishing project; this year taking on loose play parts for the construction zone area. We'll be sharing more about this with you all.

Yet another wonderful new service project was our Stories in the Park Fun Fair held on the last Wednesday in August at Head Lake Park. It was no small feat to plan an event for children and families that followed all COVID-19 protocols and requirements. We learned about sanitizing everything, keeping track of the numbers allowed inside our fenced off area, contact tracing and no-contact-food-delivery. The support of community partners and sponsors was outstanding. Seeing the kids, parents and grandparents enjoying fun fair games; hearing stories read by Lions and local children's author, Marie Gage; choosing a new book to take home; and, enjoying a free hot dog BBQ was just the best and so appreciated by all.

We organized two food drives; one in November called the Reverse Advent Calendar and one recently in April called our Easter Fill Up. All food was given to our local 4Cs Food Bank.

We conducted a virtual Toll Bridge Fundraiser and our annual Cash Calendar Lottery went off without a hitch. In fact, this was the first time in the six years of this fundraiser that all 400 tickets were sold out! We used those funds for many service projects in addition to those already outlined here, including to support our Childhood Cancer Initiative; to distribute funds to victims of fire and tragedy, to assist with the purchase of medical aids for those in need; to make donations to many non-profit local groups and organizations. Most recently, we answered the call from the Rotary Club to volunteer at the vaccine clinic and we also purchased tablets for our long-term care residents. And yes, the list goes on.

We missed some of our usual people interactions during this Covid year. We really missed the Santa Claus Parade and the Children's Christmas Party. We did, however, accept the Rotary Club's invitation to bring our Santa float to their drive-through Children's Christmas party and enjoyed being on hand to welcome the children and their families! We missed singing at Christmas at the seniors' home; the always fun Wilberforce Fair BBQ; and, other similar community events. Neverthe-



The Haliburton and District Lions Club made a donation of \$1,000 to the Haliburton County Public Library last June to purchase Maker Kits, designed to teach children about science, technology, engineering, art and/or math. From left, Lions Jim and Marilyn Frost; Nancy Therrien, programming and outreach at HCPL; Lions Kathryn Kidd and Gail Stelter, Lion Betty Mills presenting the cheque; and Lions David Mills and Jane van Nood, outside the Dysart branch. /File photo

less, it has been a busy a rewarding volunteer year for the Haliburton and District Lions Club. All the things we

missed will be back and new ones are always added. It is great to be a Lion!

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# Peloton is 'a really positive way to enhance your day'

from page 1

customer base is expanding.

Haliburton's Kayla Gardiner said she's been happy with her experience using the stationary bike her mother found in Toronto in concert with the app, but knows some of her friends have seen some real gains while using the Peloton-specific equipment.

"I know most of my friends that have the bikes would say, no!" she wrote about whether she was satisfied not using the Peloton bike. "Most have said throughout the pandemic that the bike has quite literally saved them mentally as an escape from kids, work and stress. I use it as a motivator and it's a really positive way to enhance your day."

She recognizes the friends who own and use the bike have benefited greatly because of the ability to track cadence and resistance to adhere to the classes' instructors more closely.

"And these are the two numbers throughout the rides you need to watch. For a non-Peloton and regular exercise bike, I just eyeball the instructor speed and go at the pace I'm comfortable with and then match my resistance. This has worked for me but may be frustrating for some," she wrote.

Peloton is massive right now.

As of last month, the Peloton is at 1.67 million fitness subscribers and there are 4.4 million members with an account on the platform as of Dec. 31, 2020, which includes 35 instructors. It started with the sale of their exercise bike and on-demand classes in 2014. There is an access membership fee. The firm's first quarterly revenue in 2021 revenue is \$1.06 billion. Dur-



Haliburton's Kayla Gardiner has enjoyed her Peloton sessions, believing they have helped her with her physical and her mental health during the winter and the related pandemic shutdowns to in-person exercise options. Gardiner said many of her friends, who motivated her to join the Peloton community, have experienced life changing results./DARREN LUM Staff

ing the last year, Peloton's quarterly revenue has grown by 102.97 per cent, up from \$466.3 million.

From the website, a bike will set you back at least \$2,495, which includes a 30-day home trial.

Gardiner, who pays close to \$20 a month, started taking the classes in March 2020 based on the recommendations of friends.

There is a great energy felt with each session and it comes from the interactions and the different class format, set to

a variety of music playlists.

"The instructor is always pushing you to see your best self, and really puts some great messages into the rides. The community, because you hype your friends up and they do the same to you and the online community it's nice to see riders all over the world coming together for a simple fun playlists," she wrote.

From the scrolling leaderboards, which are posted along the side of the screen during a session, she has seen a diverse mix of people, whether it was single mothers, doctors, teenagers to grandparents.

Gardiner, who works during the day and in the evening, said she'll split her days up with a ride close to lunch time while she's working at home and pick her ride sessions based on the music playlist. Sometimes when her ride in the day time wasn't enough she'll do another in the evening.

A session can be anywhere from 10 minutes to two hours, which can be low or high intensity, depending on what you want.

Gardiner points out a 15-minute session doesn't seem like much, but it still benefits her.

"I still feel great because I can say I at least I moved my body today," she wrote.

The sessions include strength, yoga, meditation, cardio, stretching, cycling, outdoor running, running, walking, tread boot camp, and bike boot camp

The 2013 HHSS graduate said she was very active in athletics, including dance, up to four nights a week during her teenage years. But then she went to Guelph University and although she was active with cheerleading and competitive dance, she noticed a drop.

"For two years and within my years leaving high school and definitely in my later years, I fell off the fitness wagon with the lifestyle of a 'freshman,'" she wrote.

Before lockdowns, Gardiner took indoor spin, yoga and dance classes in the area.

Peloton has been good, but it hasn't displaced all sports for Gardiner, who welcomes a return to a time when she can play a sport with others outside.

"Yes, I still like to do it for the social setting with friends, I plan on hopefully joining some sports again if they run like soccer."

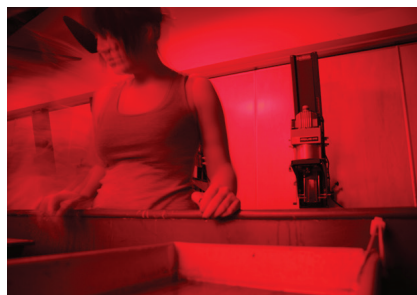
see VIRTUAL page 16

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705-457-0306

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**NEW LISTING**



Dagmar Boettcher\*\*  
457-5968

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Tom Ecclestone\*  
286-2138 x 226

### Beech River \$699,000

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- Nicely updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath
- Two finished levels of living space
- Good swimming, boat into Beech Lake



### Minnicock Lake Rd \$159,000

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Lindsay Elder\*\*  
457-5878



### Little Hawk Lake \$699,000

- Western exposure on a stunning point lot
- Premium property, 300+ ft of clean frontage
- Surrounded by crown land on 2 sides
- Rustic 1600+ SF cottage plus a boathouse



Andrew Hodgson\*\*  
286-2138 x 229



**SOLD**



Susanne James\* & Andy Mosher\*\*  
457-2128 x 133

### Mink Rd.

- Approx 1 acre, nicely forested, good privacy
- Close to public access to Long/Miskwabi Lake
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**NEW LISTING**



David Lee\*  
286-2138 x 227

### Minden Home \$199,000

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- New Fap furnace. roof resingled 3 yrs ago.
- Easy access needs some TLC.



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Brandon Nimigon\*\*\*  
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Karen Nimigon\*\*  
457-6505

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- 152 ft sandy shoreline, 1.22 acres



Kelly Kay\*  
705-457-6841  
Kirsten Rae\*  
705-854-1454

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- Treed, driveway already installed.
- Privacy for residential use!



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- 3 Bdrm/2 Bath Home
- Overlooks Gull River & Riverwalk
- Full, Partially Finished Basement
- Attached Garage, Back Deck Facing West



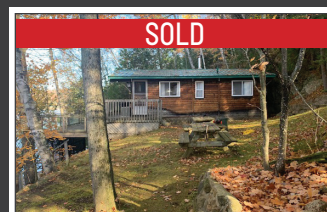
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Tom Wilkinson\*  
286-2138 x 225

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- Spectacular views from 14' wall of windows
- 182' waterfront
- Full walkout basement



**SOLD**



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- 3 season, 3 bdrm Panabode ctg, boathouse
- yr round private rd

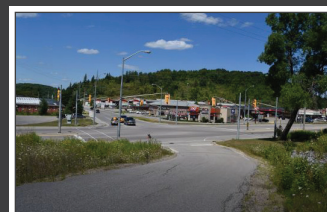


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# Virtual experience can't replace the value of in-person interactions

from page 14

cer and basketball for pickup games," she wrote.

She adds her experience with Peloton isn't making her a cyclist. She does look forward to in-person classes related to yoga and dance, which offer social interactions.

"They definitely fill the gaps and for certain classes I like the virtual style

for the cycling but for some things, like for yoga or stretching, it isn't the same because you miss those social settings. Seeing your friend next to you etc.," she wrote.

Ideally, Gardiner would love to purchase the Peloton bike in the future, but at this point she's satisfied with what her setup and her monthly subscription provides her, which include meditation sessions she takes before going to bed every

night for a restful sleep.

The benefits, she says, have been obvious, but it has also provided the sense of community that has been lost due to the restrictions on social interactions and has also provided Gardiner with a motivation to start fitness journeys.

"They are in the best shape they have ever been mentally and physically. For many I think it's been an outlet within the pandemic to have that sense of community again. In the form of group riding and sharing classes and supporting each other's ride. I think overall the app is a good reminder to just start whenever you are in your fitness journey. And starting, leads to more pursuits because you feel motivated, so hiking much more and outdoor walks in between the rides has been my thing throughout the lockdowns," she wrote.

For the cyclist with racing aspirations or the racing kit to match the obsession with wattage and heart rate beats per minute, there is the online community of Zwift.

Like the virtual experiences provided by Esports – think simulators and realistic sport games, Zwift is more of a physical Esport. The Zwift experience offers three levels from compete for the competitive, whether that's the pro to the beginner; training that has a social component; and exploring, which includes collecting achievement badges. Unlike Peloton, which mimics the studio cycling environment, Zwift provides a level of replication of the outdoor experience, but also offers it's own virtual experience. For example, there are rides that are similar, but not the same like the famous mountain pass route Alpe d'Huez is called Alpe du Zwift within the Zwift world. There is also a mountain biking experience that was recently added. There are races, events, including free riding with other bot cyclists, who can learn your habits to ride with you and encourage you.

Started in 2014, Zwift was created by entrepreneurs and game developers who came from Los Angeles and London, England and were cycling enthusiasts. It debuted in 2015. There is a monthly cost of close to \$20.

Users can opt for a conventional trainer – bike on a stationary setup. It's beneficial for the experience to have a heart rate monitor, cadence sensor and power meter. Serious users can use what is called a smart trainer with all the bells and whistles for the ultimate connection with the Zwift world.

The company has said they hope to offer hardware options like Peloton in the future, so that the start-up is easier.

With more than 3 million Zwift account holders in the world, who are pedalling their bicycles and training and racing routes made famous by cycling legends, it's a robust community of cyclists looking for a virtual experience to break records and meet personal goals. It was reported in the Calgary Journal that the app had experienced a 79 per cent increase last summer in July compared to the year before.

Robin Bell, 76, is a passionate cyclist with strong family roots, who leads an active lifestyle and first started in 2018 with his inexpensive setup using various sensors to measure relevant information [cadence, distance and speed], relayed by bluetooth from the bicycle on his Tacx Flow trainer from the 1990s set in front of a television set.

Like most cyclists, the president of the local cycling club, the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders [HRER] didn't enjoy his time on the trainer before Zwift and had only used the trainer twice since he got it. After continuously speaking with friends and fellow members of the Kawartha Cycling Club [KCC], he decided to join the Zwift community with his equipment. Over the past two winters, it has been the main way he has stayed fit, he adds.

Bell said Zwift enables him the flexibility to ride any time of the day

"Especially when before, even in early winter there were wet /windy days that the temp was ok for outside but I wouldn't go because of the wet/windy bit. It's convenient, takes less time for the whole ride and I can pick one of approximately 60 different rides in France, England, Austria, USA and a make-believe island in South Pacific called Watopia. When riding you can see other riders and there is a lot of socializing going on. Zwift has many different mass rides and actual races that you participate in and also a group of friends can plan a ride together on any of the routes. I do this twice per week with approximately 13 friends from KCC and HRER [called Meetup]. You can choose an "open" ride [where the fast riders ride away from the slower ones] or

see HALIBURTON page 17

Crossword brought to you by

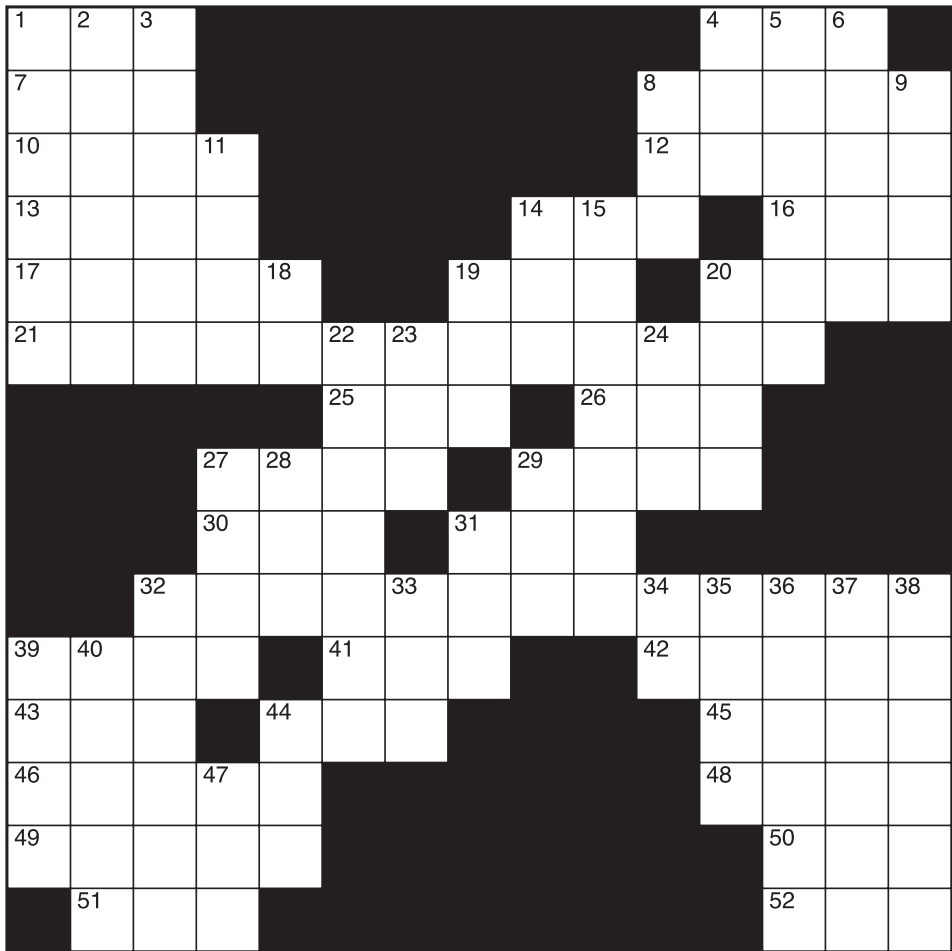
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- CLUES ACROSS

  - Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)
  - American time
  - Satisfaction
  - Diving duck
  - Very small amount
  - Metrical units
  - An ignorant or foolish person
  - Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
  - It may sting you
  - Turn outward
  - Perform on stage
  - "CSI" actor George
  - Localities
  - Make a choice
  - Indicates position
  - One of Thor's names
  - Indian musical rhythmic pattern
  - "The Raven" author
  - Take in solid food
  - Legendary QB
  - Sorrels
  - Organization of nations
  - Texas pharmaceutical
- company

  - Mathematical term
  - Expression of disappointment
  - Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
  - Hide away
  - Salad restaurant
  - Daughters of Boreas (mythology)
  - Men's fashion accessory
  - Political action committee
  - Unhappy

CLUES DOWN

  - Make unhappy
  - Heard the confession of
  - Capital of Taiwan
  - Fiddler crab
  - Brazilian dances
  - Fit with device to assist breathing
  - Brother or sister
  - Pastries
  - "Lone Survivor" director Peter
- Boat type (abbr.)
  - Apertures (biology)
  - Suffix
  - Creative endeavor
  - Icelandic poem
  - Spanish dances
  - Town in Central Italy
  - Cars need it
  - Mimics
  - Rocky peak
  - Cigarette (slang)
  - One point south of due east
  - Soap actress Braun
  - Large domesticated wild ox
  - Island nation
  - Appear
  - Addictive practices
  - Loss of control of one's body
  - Type of poster
  - Greek mountain
  - Funny person
  - One and only
  - Pouch

Answers on page 14

## SUMMER GUIDE MAGAZINE IS COMING SOON!

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THE ECHO  
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The Times  
MINDEN ONTARIO

CountyLife







# EV charging station to be installed at Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre

from page 17

meeting on April 27, or want to present a delegation, or have a question answered must register with the township. People will be limited to five minutes each to address council and there will not be an opportunity to make a powerpoint presentation. These rules will allow several delegations to be included. This alters slightly from the procedural bylaw, but is only for this meeting. Requests for delegations and submission of questions must be submitted two days prior to the meeting. Contact the municipal clerk, Robyn Rogers at [rogers@highlandseast.ca](mailto:rogers@highlandseast.ca) or by telephone at 705-448-2981 ext. 422.

## HE moving forward with EV station

As part of a Haliburton County and the lower tier municipalities initiative, Highlands East has selected the turn-key

approach instead of the ownership option towards adding an EV charging station at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre.

It provided funding certainty because it will not only take advantage of Natural Resources Canada funding, which has been granted to the delivery organization of Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation under the Ivy Network, but it does not require "high upfront capital costs," installation of the stations will be quicker, the Ivy Network will take care of installation, maintenance and operations.

As written for the turn-key approach, "This funding requires installation of the charging stations this year. While there was no firm deadline provided for municipalities to determine the location and number of sites that they wish to proceed with under this option, it was confirmed with the delivery organization that a decision on the number of stations and locations must be made in April 2021 to proceed with the work that is required prior to construction.

For both options, all revenue is transferred to the municipality, which "typically only covers the cost of electricity use by the station."

Highlands East CAO Shannon Hunter said with option one there is the potential to match what the township has already budgeted.

"We could double our money. For example, if we put in so much money, the application could possibly double that. It could provide the opportunity where we have more than one charging station and the reason this is coming forward is this is some of the climate change protocols or suggestions that have come forward in the past year," Hunter said.

## Fire Safety Grant will enhance fire department

Highlands East fire chief Chris Baughman said taking the initiative on applying for grant money has benefited the local

department.

Baughman secured provincial funding for challenges associated with training, and inspections due to the COVID-19 pandemic by applying and accepting \$5,400 from the Fire Safety Grant program in principal pending council approval. He went ahead without approval because of a tight timeline related to its March 11 deadline.

This money, which was part of a one time \$5 million provincial grant.

Baughman said he requested the funding for "use in our inspection program by implementing a records management and inspection software. This will ensure that inspections and the documentation are being recorded and stored effectively."

This was calculated with a base-rate of \$4,500 per municipality with additional funds allocated by population. The money must be spent by Aug. 1, 2021 and a report with how the grant was used be sent back to the fire marshal is required by Sept. 1, 2021.

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# Let's make every day Earth Day, don'tcha know!

SO, THERE we were, ol' Maybelle, Beanpole Starkman, Twindle Mumbly, Vilma Yucch, and her sweetie, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom [McB for short, which he isn't. He's a towering hunk of a man with a jaw so chiselled you could crack an egg on it] sitting six feet apart out back of my cottage, masked like bandits, talking about Earth Day in Canada, don'tcha know.

"This year's theme is: Let's take care of our planet," Beanpole said. "But, as far as I'm concerned, in order to do that, Earth Day shouldn't just be on April 22, it needs to be *every* day!"

"I totally agree, Beanpole," I said. "There's a lot we can do right in our own home and we need to make a habit of it."

"There is?" Vilma said, her baby blues as big as saucers.

"Sure, Vilma," Officer McB said, wrapping his big man arm around her. "Like *what*, Maybelle?"

"Like food...energy...waste..."

Twindle piped in. "And nature. Like growing your own vegetable garden. And herbs. And growing plenty of flowers for the pollinators.

Using natural fertilizers instead of chemical ones. Using your compost as a natural fertilizer. It not only creates healthy soil, it makes your plants happy."

## Maybelle's



## Fireside stories

"We can do that, Stanley."

"And, when you two take those lovely long walks of yours," ol' Maybelle said, "take some empty bags along and collect the garbage you see on the ground. Tin cans, plastic bags, bottles. They can make the birds and critters sick and it's just plain nasty for the environment."

"We can do that, too, Stanley."

"Now let's talk: Food," Twindle said. "Now it's a known fact that livestock farming is responsible for almost 15 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, 63 per cent of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest, over-consumption of water, and depletion of soil, not to mention the suffering of animals. So, there's quite a case to be made for eating vegetarian."

"Vegetarian? Now wait just a minute, Twindle. There's no way I'm going to give up a good rib-eye once a week," McB spouted.

"But, Stanley," Vilma said, "the planet needs our help."

He always turns to mush when she flutters her lashes. "Then again ... I like squash."

"Now here's a statistic for you," ol' Maybelle said. "Right here in Canada, 58 per cent of food is discarded somewhere along the food chain. Instead of throwing out leftovers or vegetables that are softening but are still

good to eat...we can make soups, freeze and store it properly.

"Sounds good, Maybelle," McB said. "And, I want you to know, I've been making Earth Day every day for a long time. I always replace my light bulbs with low-energy bulbs that consume 80 per cent less electricity than conventional light bulbs."

"Ohhh, Stanley," Vilma purred as if he had just climbed Mount Kilimanjaro.

"And there are more and more items available that can help us reduce our consumption of single-use plastics," ol' Maybelle said, "like reusable cups, straws, bags, and containers. During COVID, it can be a bit more difficult to use them but once things return to normal, they will be valuable assets in our zero-waste approach."

Beanpole added: "A great way to cut down on waste is by buying things second-hand. Lake WhaddayathinkI mean has great thrift stores, second-hand shops, garage sales. Trading is another way to give and get without tossing things out."

Well, if we didn't all decide to walk the talk and work our ideas into our daily routines, don'tcha know. So, dear reader, in keeping with Earth Day's 2021 theme and our love for this beautiful place we call home: Let's take care of our planet!"

*Maybelle's Fireside Stories* is written by Jerelyn Craden. Jerelyn's books, "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon," and "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You" are available at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

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- Ensure that vehicles are scheduled and taken for oil changes as needed.
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Please submit a resume and cover letter, preferably by email, no later than noon on April 29, 2021 to the attention of Laura Casey, Manager of Human Resources and Payroll at [lcasey@dysartetal.ca](mailto:lcasey@dysartetal.ca).

Alternatively, your submission may be mailed to P.O. Box 389, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0.

We thank all of those who apply, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes.



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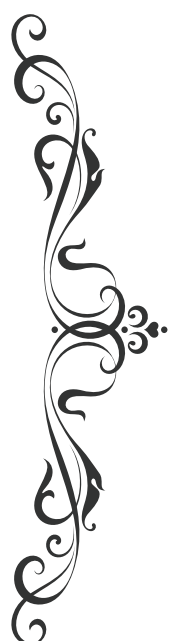
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**Attention: Kim Robinson**

Deadline for applications is April 30, 2021. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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## 520 THANK YOU

### Thank You!

The family of the late James Wm. (Dusty) Sutherland would like to thank everyone for; the cards, flowers, phone calls, emails, text messages of condolences and support.

Also, thank you for the donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services in Dusty's name. Special thanks to Monk's Funeral Home (Kirsten & Barry) for all their kind and helpful ways. To Dr. Coles and Dr. Stevenson at the Haliburton Hospital, and Dr. Conway who was Dusty's doctor for many years. We appreciate all their kind words and helpfulness. Once again, thank you very much to everyone, God Bless.

*Forever in our hearts, Phyllis & Family*



## 500 ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Family-led death care? End of Life Doula? Natural Burial?

**Adriane Weller** speaks at a free Zoom event organized by the Haliburton Green Burial Society. Wed. April 28, 7:30 pm to be followed by a short AGM.

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## Inside The Echo



Wilberforce ... see page 7



Award winners ... see page 6



Lindsay rally ... see page 13

# THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

AND MINDEN RECORDER

Vol. 103

No. 29

Wednesday, April 24, 1985

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## Fearrey speaks out at campaign dinner

With praise for his campaign workers and strong words about the costs of Liberal Party promises, PC candidate Murray Fearrey basked in the warmth and good wishes of local supporters at a fund raising dinner in Haliburton on Friday night.

Fearrey, who was joined at the head table by environment minister Morley Kells, said it was "just great to be home" after the hectic pace of the campaign trail.

Fearrey said he began his campaign for the Victoria Haliburton seat with the support of many local people, but as the effort to unseat

related to sport fishing, farming and bilingualism.

The Liberals say they will intensify fish stocking programs, but to fund it they would impose a resident angling license fee.

"We haven't had to do that have we Mr. Minister?" Fearrey said in an aside to Kells.

The Liberals also propose long term, low interest loans of up to \$350,000 for farmers, apparently without any qualifications about experience or proven efficiency.

"How can we talk this way?" Fearrey said. Under the Liberal

### 'My task is to be honest' candidate says

Liberal incumbent John Eakins gains momentum, he has found loyal supporters in other parts of the riding as well. He said he is particularly pleased with the help he has been getting from the Minden area, and from Larry McKnight, who was an unsuccessful candidate for the nomination.

The Dysart reeve said he has had his "eyes opened up" by his travels throughout the riding in the past two weeks. Everywhere, he has heard concerns about the economy, youth unemployment, senior citizens' programs, small business, tourism, education, factory closings and lost government jobs. Frank Miller's Enterprise Ontario platform addresses these issues, Fearrey said, and provides an alternative "to put Ontario on an even stronger base."

Sixty percent of the jobs created in Canada in the past month were created in Ontario, and "I think we can be proud of that," Fearrey said.

He used the occasion to attack three specific Liberal proposals

program people wanting to get into the farming industry could end up owing half a million dollars with no hope of meeting the payments, he said. "Is that really fair to our young people?"

Fearrey also said the Liberals are committed to the entrenchment of official bilingualism in Ontario. The Conservatives haven't done that and we wouldn't.

Fearrey said that throughout the campaign he has resisted pressure to use what he termed 'hype' in his speeches and discussions with voters.

"My task is to be honest," he said.

He concluded his remarks with a reference to the rural task force report prepared under incumbent John Eakins' chairmanship which claims the voice of rural Ontario is not being heard at the cabinet table. By winning the Victoria/Haliburton seat for the PC's "we can help solve that problem and assist the opposition in the implementation of one of their key recommendations," Fearrey told supporters.



Ontario premier Frank Miller greeted supporters in Lindsay on Saturday as local campaign workers staged a barbeque and rally in support of the Murray

Fearrey campaign. Fearrey, shown here greeting voters just behind Miller, advocated a major tourist attraction for the town in his speech.

## Miller adopts Liberal ideas

Conservative premier Frank Miller has adopted some of the proposals contained in John Eakins' rural task force report, according to Robert Drury, Eakins' press agent.

The report, made public for the first time two weeks ago, contains a number of recommendations which have become Liberal policy in the current campaign, but Conservatives also are showing an interest in it, Drury said.

Recent policy statements from Miller indicate that he agrees with the Liberal task force proposal to fully subsidize travel costs to southern Ontario for people needing medical services not available in the north. As well, Drury said, Miller has agreed with the concept of providing increased cash incentives to attract medical specialists to small communities in Northern Ontario.

Drury said he expects more recommendations from Eakins' task force report will be adopted by the PC's as the campaign intensifies.

## Debate focus on education

Education policies and priorities are expected to be the main topic of an all candidates debate this Wednesday night in Lindsay. Teachers' federations in Victoria County have organized the debate, which will be held at Lindsay Collegiate and will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Educators throughout the province have voiced their opposition to the provincial government's plan to extend public funding to all separate school grades. The decision was announced by former Premier Bill Davis only weeks before his retirement, and has yet to be drafted into formal legislation. Despite the lack of public debate, funding is expected to begin this fall.

All three provincial party leaders have indicated they support the move, but none has so far explained the reasons for it.

The three candidates -- Liberal incumbent John Eakins, Conservative candidate Murray Fearrey and NDP hopeful Art Field, will make opening statements, then answer questions submitted in written form from the audience. A moderator will pose the questions and ensure that each candidate is given an equal chance to respond.

## Local man named to Red Cross post

Ken Morley of Haliburton Lake, a long-time supporter of Red Cross and local branch president, was named vice president of the Ontario Division at the organization's annual meeting in Toronto recently. He also was presented with a certificate of merit for his work on the society's behalf. The certificate is awarded to individuals who have given voluntary service and whose interest and co-operation have assisted the Red Cross in its humanitarian activities.

Mike Exall, consultant to the local Nordic Trails Association, received a citation for a special contribution to the Red Cross. He is chairman of first aid programs for Ontario Division.

## Agriculture fuels debate

Candidates split on who should get low interest

Farmers in Victoria County got a chance to hear where the three local candidates stand on agricultural issues last Thursday night at an all candidates debate sponsored by the Victoria County federation of agriculture.

Incumbent John Eakins, PC candidate Murray Fearrey and NDP hopeful Art Field faced a battery of tough questions after brief opening

statements, and while no clear winner emerged, the edge may have gone to Fearrey, who was well prepared and held firm on a number of controversial issues.

Eakins began his remarks to the 80 or so farmers by stating that he is "deeply committed to rural Ontario." He said the report of the rural task force he chaired symbolizes his concerns about the problems of rural Ontario and points out that there are no "quick and easy solutions."

The Liberal incumbent said the

agrees to participate.

"Farming is probably the most efficient industry in Ontario" he said, adding that "it makes good sense to help the farming sector." However, loan programs should be directed only "at viable farms", he said, and prices must be allowed to reflect the cost of production.

Art Field also made no attempt to hide his lack of agricultural knowledge, saying that he "came to learn" from those involved in the industry.

Field said NDP policy is to allow

## Electorate well served ... page 4

key to improving the economy of rural Ontario "is strong government policy to preserve the family farm", through capital assistance programs, changes to the tile drainage act, red meat stabilization and "an aggressive commitment to farm self-sufficiency".

Fearrey opened his remarks with an acknowledgement that his understanding of farm issues "is limited", but said he had heard the concerns of a great many farmers during his campaign swings through the riding.

The government's emphasis in the farming sector must be "to put existing, viable farms on a solid foundation", he said. To do this, it will merge two existing farm loan agencies into a single entity which will provide loans at 9 1/4 percent to 4500 farmers over the next three years. As well, \$2 million will be earmarked for research on crops not presently grown in Ontario, and a further \$5 million will go to train young people for agricultural jobs.

Fearrey also said the Conservatives are committed to an agri-bond program if the federal government

food prices to reflect production costs plus "a reasonable return" for farmers. Credit charges would be pegged at two percent above the inflation rate, and banks would be compelled to loan money to farmers at the same rates charged to large corporations.

Legislation is needed "to mediate in negotiations between banks and farmers," Field said.

As well, the NDP believes support for agricultural research "should be in the forefront" of government policy.

Questions from the audience were directed to the candidates through a moderator who ensured that emotions were kept under control and no invectives were hurled.

The questions covered a wide range of topics from Hydro employees' right to strike to the importation of livestock. But it was on the issues of loan assistance to farmers, funding of Catholic schools and bilingualism that the debate challenged the candidates and pro-

Please turn to Page 3



The waters of the Gull River were fast and frigid over the weekend but that didn't stop canoeists and kayakers from several provinces from competing in the world team trials at the wild water preserve near

Minden. Here a competitor attacks the course with determination. For more on events scheduled for this season, see page 6.

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Have you been searching for privacy, peace, and tranquility? This 139+ acre parcel and year-round 3-bdrm home gives you just that and more. Miles of trails for hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and two beautiful ponds. The privacy can't be beat. Built in 2012 with a bright open concept living design. Large modern kitchen and dining area. Spacious main floor living room. Finished walk-out lower. Beautiful original two-story barn. Stop dreaming and start enjoying the endless possibilities this property offers.

### HALLS LAKE \$689,000



Well maintained cottage or home on Hall's Lake with gorgeous lake views. Lovely landscaped terraced lot with two cabins at water's edge. Main cottage features the first level with a large kitchen with wood cabinets, dining room & fantastic screened porch and cozy living room. Second floor has a huge master with ensuite, family room and additional bedroom. Unfinished basement with walkout for potential to fashion more living space. Detached carport.

### BEECH LAKE \$659,000



Get that "Lodge Like" feeling at this 3-bdrm, 1 bath, four season cottage. Octagon shaped open concept great room with exposed Douglas fir beams creates warmth and charm. Woodburning fireplace is the main focal point. The full-sized kitchen with island is great for entertaining. Western exposure provides fabulous sunset views. 131 feet of frontage with a mixture of sand and rock shoreline. Cantilever dock or in your shaded picnic area with hammock. Great waterfront privacy.

### LITTLE GLAMOR LAKE \$529,000



It has the best view on the lake! Traditional 3-bdrm, 1 bath cottage. Large windows, compact kitchen with great layout for cooking. Walk-out to wrap around deck with glass railings. Large sunroom. Pretty lake views. Detached single garage. Nice level sunny lot with a gentle slope to the lake with lawn area and firepit.

### DRAG RIVER \$449,000



Bright and spacious 2-bdrm, 2 bath Viceroy home/cottage. Pretty view with 155 feet of frontage on Drag River. Open concept kitchen and dining area and vaulted pine ceilings in the living room. Large river front deck. Spacious master bedroom with his and her closets. Unfinished walk-out lower level. Private riverside setting, great for canoeing, kayaking and swimming.

### COMMERCIAL THE LAKE VIEW MOTEL \$1,950,000



One of Haliburton's most popular Motels. The Lakeview Motel offers 14 motel rms and personal living quarters. Immaculate grounds and very well maintained buildings. Turnkey operation. Lovely inground pool, 4 hot tubs, horseshoe pit, dining room, BBQ's and much more offered to guests. Personal living quarters with 3 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 living rms and kitchen/dining area. Huge potential to expand on this 3.78-acre parcel.

### VACANT LOTS

PERCY LAKE  
0.59AC \$359,000

LOUISE LANE  
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Haliburton Lake Road \$160,000  
2.66AC

Linkert Road \$105,000  
0.33AC

HIGHWAY 35  
0.55AC \$79,900

HIGHWAY 35  
0.83AC \$79,900

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